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OLC 70-0210

16 March 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Meeting with Chairman Morgan and Representative Adair, House Foreign Affairs Committee

1. Today I accompanied the Director on a call to Chairman Morgan and Representative Adair (ranking minority member), House Foreign Affairs Committee, in response to word from the Committee staff (Boyd Crawford) that several Committee members were pressing for a briefing on the Laos situation.

2. The Director explained how an appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Laos had come about in connection with Mr. Nester's confirmation hearings and recent press stories. He said he would be glad to brief the Foreign Affairs Committee on the general situation in Laos and other matters of current interest, but would hope to avoid anything bearing on Agency operations or internal Agency matters. He mentioned our usual ground rules -- testimony to be only in executive session, no subsequent disclosures of the substance of his remarks, only one copy of the record and this to be kept in Agency custody.

3. Chairman Morgan and Mr. Adair readily agreed to these conditions and explained that they would try to keep the hearing from "getting off the track" although there were several "young turks" who might try to go beyond these parameters. In this case, Morgan said, the Director should feel free to explain his reluctance to open up the discussion to cover sensitive Agency matters, but offer to talk privately with the questioner if he had any specific problems.

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4. Representatives Morgan and Adair indicated that in addition to Laos they would like a general roundup briefing, specifying particular interest in the Middle East situation, Sino-Soviet relations, rumors of internal stress in the Soviet leadership, and possibly something about Rhodesia. One of them also asked about rumors in the British press that President Kaunda of Zambia was assembling troops on the Rhodesian border.

5. Following our meeting the Director said his presentation should cover the following:

a. Internal Soviet--

- (1) Possible leadership differences.
- (2) Economic problems.

b. Sino-Soviet relations--

- (1) Military situation in border areas.
- (2) Status of Peking talks.

c. Middle East--

- (1) General situation in the Mediterranean area:
Maghreb, Libya, Soviet naval presence.
- (2) Persian Gulf and Saudi Arabia.
- (3) Arab-Israeli conflict.

d. Africa--Tanzania, Zambia, Rhodesia,

e. Southeast Asia--

- (1) Vietnam.
- (2) Laos.
- (3) Cambodia.

f. Western Hemisphere--

- (1) Cuba.
- (2) Other trouble spots.

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6. The Director's appearance has been scheduled for Tuesday, 24 March 1970, at 10:00 a.m. in room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building.

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Legislative Counsel

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